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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From the Office of the Willmar City Mayor

As you have heard, Governor Walz has extended the "Stay at Home" order through May 4, 2020. Based upon the new Emergency Executive Order 20-33, the City of Willmar is planning on continuing our current city service levels through May 4, 2020. The City Hall will remain closed to public access, and most city departments remain operational. Some departments are operating from remote sites and can be contacted either by email or by telephone. The telephone numbers are posted on our social media pages and city web site. All City Hall departments have their office phone number calls forwarded to where they are working at, in most cases, they are working remote.

The City Council will be holding committee meetings this week and next week in preparation for the City Council meeting on April 20. All committee meetings continue to be recorded and can be accessed by the public when posted. The committee and City Council meetings will be held on the Gotomeeting platform, where all participants of the meeting are remotely located. City Council meetings will be streamed on WRAC-8 for the public. We are working on a system to allow for public comment at our meetings as there are some agenda items such as public hearings that require a way for citizens to make comments during the meeting.

Given the nice weather we have experienced, and residents cleaning up their yards, there have been requests to open the brush site. We will open the brush site for residents on April 11. You can view the announcement on the city web site and Facebook page that sets the hours and process we will be using to monitor brush site operations.

I want to thank all city employees that are working to provide the highest level of public safety services to our residents, while at the same time, where ever practical, trying to comply with the Governor's "Stay at Home" order.

We thank you for your patience as we strive to maintain the services needed to keep our community's residents safe. We are doing our best to flatten the curve and hope that you all are practicing social distancing, washing of hands, staying home unless performing an authorized activity, and if you have them, wearing a mask while out in public. Together we will make it through the Covid-19 pandemic.

Marv Calvin Mayor - City of Willmar April 10, 2020